

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 14197 291804Z

42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 EURE-00 SSO-00 /015 W

----- 014373

O 291750Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2499

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 14197

DEPT. PASS TO HOLT LEVINSON, SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS
COMMITTEE AND DAVID ANDERSON, EUR/CE. FROM BLUM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, MASS, GW

SUBJ: US ARMS SALES IN GERMANY

1. FMOD (DEFENSE MINISTRY) INVESTIGATIVE SECTION WILL
MAKE ITS FILES ON LOCKHEED AND OTHER U.S. FIRMS
AVAILABLE TO ME IN BONN IF THEY ARE IN RECEIPT OF A
LETTER SIMILAR TO ONE FOLLOWING SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN.
THE LETTER IS NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE GERMAN MINISTRY
AGAINST LITIGATION.

2. SUGGESTED TEXT OF LETTER:
QUOTE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS OF THE
SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE IS PRESENTLY INVESTIGA-
TING THE ACTIVITIES OF A NUMBER OF AMERICAN CORPORATIONS
WHICH SELL AIRCRAFT AND WEAPONS SYSTEMS.

IN THE COURSE OF THE INVESTIGATION, THE SUBCOMMITTEE HAS
RECEIVED MATERIAL FROM THE LOCKHEED CORPORATION SHOWING
THE PAYMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS TO AGENTS IN GERMANY
BY LOCKHEED IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE OF AIRCRAFT AND
PARTS. LOCKHEED HAS TOLD THE SUBCOMMITTEE THAT THESE
PAYMENTS WERE AUDITED BY THE GERMAN DEFENSE MINISTRY
AND WERE APPROVED. PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF THE
LOCKHEED DOCUMENTS SUGGESTS THAT THEY MAY CONSTITUTE
NEW EVIDENCE FOR YOUR INVESTIGATIVE UNIT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 14197 291804Z

THE DOCUMENTS WILL BE FORWARDED TO YOU ON A CONFIDENTIAL

BASIS TO ASSIST YOUR INVESTIGATIONS. THEY MUST BE KEPT ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS BOTH AS TO SOURCE AND CONTENT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE HAS SUBSTANTIAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON LOCKHEED'S ACTIVITIES IN GERMANY DEVELOPED IN THE COURSE OF ITS INVESTIGATIONS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ACCESS TO THOSE FILES AS WELL AS MATERIALS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NORTHROP CORPORATION AND THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS: C. FRED, C. MEUSER, JOHANNES GERRITSON, WEISBROD, STEINSUKKE, GUNTHER FRANKE-FOLLE AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHOSE NAMES HAVE APPEARED IN OUR INVESTIGATION.

WE ARE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN THE POSSIBLE USE OF SWISS "CONSULTING FIRMS" BY AMERICAN MULTINATIONALS TO CONCEAL FOREIGN POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND BRIBES. ANY INFORMATION IN THIS CONNECTION WHICH YOU CAN FURNISH WILL BE APPRECIATED.

MR. JACK A. BLUM OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE STAFF IS AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS THE INFORMATION WE ARE SEEKING, THE TERMS ON WHICH IT CAN BE RECEIVED AND TO TAKE DELIVERY. WE EXPECT THAT HE WILL BE IN BONN DURING THE WEEK OF SEPT. 1. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR KEEPING THIS REQUEST CONFIDENTIAL. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION. UNQUOTE

3. THE LETTER SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: FEDERAL MINISTER OF DEFENSE, 53 BONN 1, GERMANY.

4. THE FMOD FILES ARE EXTENSIVE AND HIGHLY PROMISING. GERMAN LAW HAS VERY HIGH STANDARDS OF PROOF AND REQUIRES A SHOWING OF ACTUAL PAYMENTS CHANGING HANDS IN CONNECTION WITH A DECISION. THESE STANDARDS HAVE PRECLUDED GERMAN USE OF THE MATERIAL.

5. HERR RATH, FMOD'S CHIEF INVESTIGATOR, IS MOST WILLING TO COOPERATE BUT FEELS HE MUST BE PROTECTED BY FORMAL REQUEST INASMUCH AS HE IS BEING SUED BY A DEFENSE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 14197 291804Z

CONTRACTOR FOR WARNING THE U.S. EMBASSY OF A POSSIBLE BRIBE/OVERCHARGE SITUATION.

6. PLEASE TRANSMIT SIGNED LETTER BY CABLE THROUGH STATE CHANNELS SO THAT IT ARRIVES IN TIME TO BE USEFUL. ACTUAL LETTER SHOULD FOLLOW BY AIR POUCH.

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED TO HOLT LEVINSON.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, ARMS, SPARE PARTS, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN14197
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750300-0127
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975082/aaaaabmv.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <09 OCT 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US ARMS SALES IN GERMANY
TAGS: EAIR, MASS, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006